

CT-604

PORT REPUBLIC SCHOOL #7

(c. 1886-1870)

Port Republic vicinity

Public

This typical one-room schoolhouse was renovated in the 1970s and is maintained as a museum.

The single story, wood-framed, gable fronted building is a single bay wide and three bays deep. The entry is centered in the east gable end and adjoins a recently constructed stoop. Six over six, double hung windows light the interior.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Port Republic Schoolhouse #7 (CT-604)

a) Historical Period Theme: Social/Education/Cultural

b) Geographic Organization: Western Shore

c) Chronological/Developmental Period:

Agricultural-Industrial Transition, A.D. 1815-1870

d) Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): school

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CT-604

Magi No. 0506045702

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name

historic Port Republic School #7

and/or common

2. Location

street & number East side, Broomes Island Road

☐ not for publication

city, town Port Republic

☒ vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Calvert

3. Classification

Category

☐ district

☐ building(s)

☒ structure

☐ site

☐ object

Ownership

☐ public

☒ private

☐ both

Public Acquisition

☐ in process

☐ being considered

☐ not applicable

Status

☐ occupied

☒ unoccupied

☐ work in progress

Accessible

☐ yes: restricted

☒ yes: unrestricted

☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture

☐ commercial

☒ educational

☐ entertainment

☐ government

☐ industrial

☐ military

☐ museum

☐ park

☐ private residence

☐ religious

☐ scientific

☐ transportation

☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Vestry of Christ Church

street & number 3100 Broomes Island Road

telephone no.: 410-586-0565

city, town Port Republic

state and zip code MD 20676

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Circuit Court Clerk's Office

liber JLB 11: 50

street & number 175 Main Street

folio 92; 74

city, town Prince Frederick

state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing

Historical Surveys

title Calvert County Historic Sites Survey

date 3/1980

☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville

state MD

7. Description

Survey No. CT-604

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date of move _____

The single-story, front gabled, wood-framed building, is rectangular in plan, and is similar in size and plan to other one-room schoolhouses of the period in Calvert County. It is located on a flat, tree-shaded lot at the north edge of the Christ Church property on the east side of Broomes Island Road (Maryland Route 264). Available evidence indicates that the building is on its original site (Howard 1998).

The principal facade of the building faces east and is marked by a central six-panel, "Cross and Bible" wood door. Access to this door is by means of recently constructed wood steps leading to a rectangular stoop. This stoop and stairway is marked by wood newels with ball finials. The building is three bays deep with bays defined by regularly spaced, six over six, wood-framed windows. The rear elevation is blank.

The building is raised on rubble stone piers. Its walls are sheathed in German siding. The cornice is boxed with returns at the gable ends. The roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles made to resemble wood shingles. A brick chimney, partially parged, rises from the rear of the roof ridge.

The interior walls are sheathed in tongue and groove paneling. Window casings are ornamented with bullseye corner blocks. The single room interior has been restored as a classroom.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-604

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistory	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1866-1870

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
 and/or
 Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
 Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Significance:

The Port Republic School #7 is significant as the best-preserved example of a nineteenth century, one-room schoolhouse in Calvert County. Although other examples of one-room schoolhouses exist in the county, some are abandoned and deteriorated, while others have been substantially altered in conversion to residences. It is recommended eligible for the National Register at the local level of significance for its role in nineteenth and twentieth century education in the local community and as a typical, well-preserved example of a nineteenth century one-room school.

Available information suggests that the Port Republic School #7 was constructed in about 1866. Anecdotal evidence from the late Mr. James W. Brown indicated that it was known as the "old school" when he entered the first grade in 1886. The school remained in use until 1932 when school consolidation occurred, and children were required to attend school in Prince Frederick.

Pauline Williams Bennett described teaching at the Port Republic School in the 1910s:

I found reference books for the teacher and extra materials and books with colored illustrations for the pupils, also additional school supplies were on hand. The school was a frame building located near Christ Episcopal Church. The furnishings were simple and I assume similar to other schools....

Fortunately for me I knew most of the families whose children were in attendance. Many attended the same church, Christ Episcopal Church, as I did so I met them frequently. All of which made for better relations between the School, the children, Teachers and Parents (in Calvert Retired Teachers Association 1976).

Following the school's closure, it was used as the residence of two tenant farmers of Dorsey Gray, Sr., whose farm adjoins the property. Until the 1970s, the school had been abandoned for years, doorless and covered with poison ivy.

The school building was restored as a Bicentennial project of the Calvert Retired Teachers Association. The restoration, funded by contributions from throughout the Calvert County community, included reshingling and repair of the roof, repair of windows, replacement of the door and the stove, and addition of period furnishings. The building was painted in 1985, and steps were replaced in the same year. Subsequent maintenance projects have included replacement of some siding and repairs to the roof.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-604

Elaine Dunkel. Handbook for Volunteers. One Room School. 1997.

Calvert Retired Teachers Association. "Fifty Years of Education in Calvert County" (December 1975). On file at the Calvert County Historical Society, Prince Frederick.

Elvin Howard (former student at school). Interview. May 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 15.20 acres [entire parcel]

Quadrangle name Broomes Island, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Map 28, Block 60. That portion of indicated parcel on which the school building stands. This is the property historically associated with the school.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Douglas C. McVarish, Project Architectural Historian

organization John Milner Associates, Inc.

date May 1998

street & number 1216 Arch Street, 5th Floor

telephone 215-561-7637

city or town Philadelphia

state PA

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032
(301-514-7600)

CT-604
PORT REPUBLIC SCHOOL
(c. 1900)
Port Republic
Public

This typical county schoolhouse was recently renovated.

This one-story frame building measures three bays long by one bay deep. The entrance appears in the east gable end. Six over six windows light the structure.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON Port Republic School**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Broomes Island Road (Maryland Route 264)

CITY, TOWN

Port Republic

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☒ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

W. Dorsey Gray

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

20676**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

Calvert County Courthouse
(MD Route 765) Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Prince Frederick

STATE

MD**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CT-604

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This one-story frame building measures three bays long by one bay deep. The entrance appears in the east gable end. Six over six windows light the structure.

The schoolhouse stands on brick piers. A narrow, brick stove-flue chimney located inside the west gable end heats the building. German siding covers the walls. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This typical country schoolhouse was recently renovated.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CT-604

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Merry Stinson

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

March, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

Box 107

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Dunkirk

STATE

MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

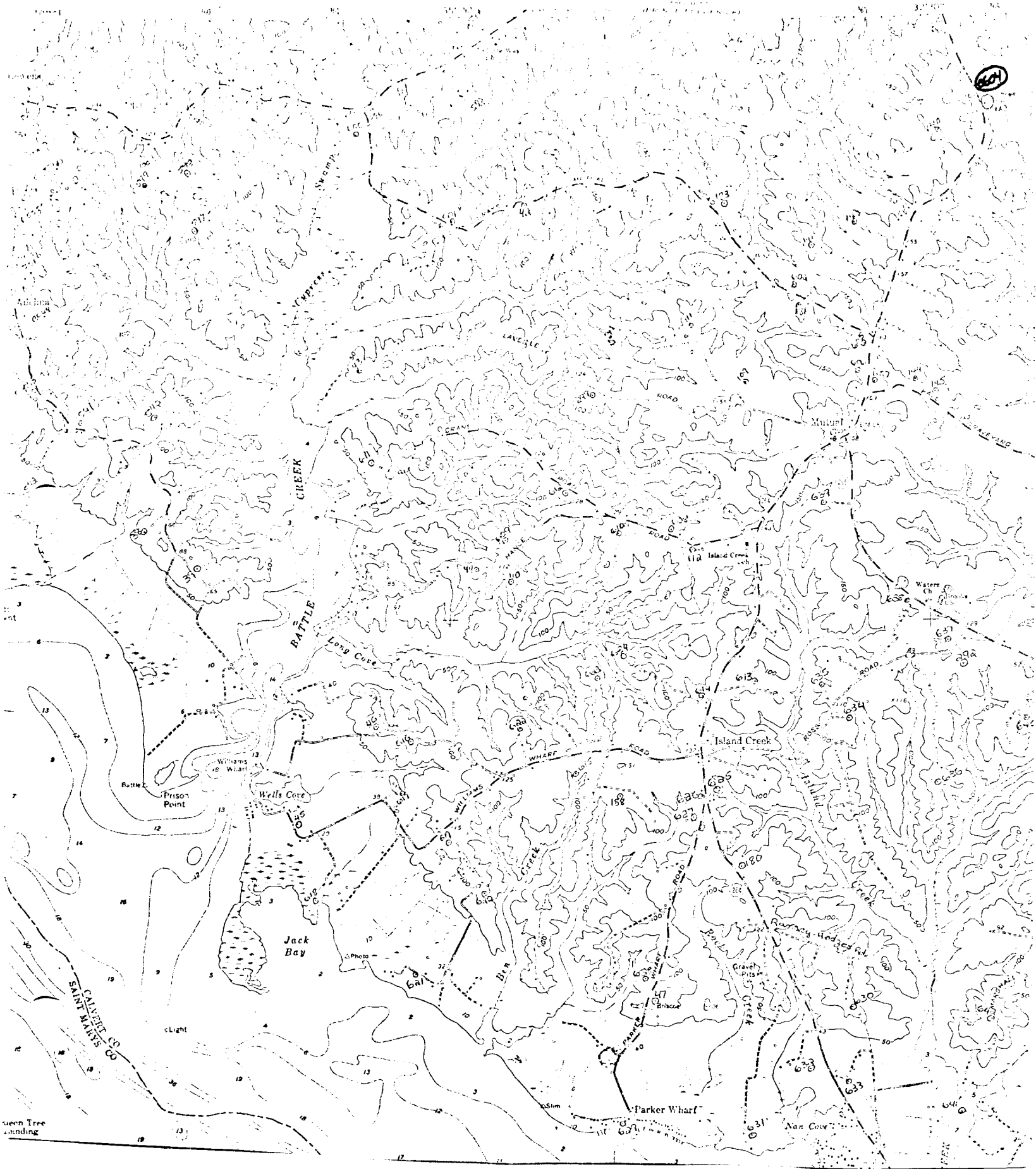
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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

CT-604
Port Republic School

Broomes Island Quadrangle

UNITED STATES
BUREAU OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



NE/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE

PRINCE FREDERICK 4.5 MI.
1.5 MI. TO MD. 506

368

1940 000 FEET

369

76°30'

 $38^{\circ}30'$

Port Republic
Schoolhouse #7
Port Republic
Broomes Island
quadrangle

CT. 604

240 000
FEET

4261

4260

4250

LOSBY 4.5 MI.
SOLOMONS 12 MI.

425

27'30"

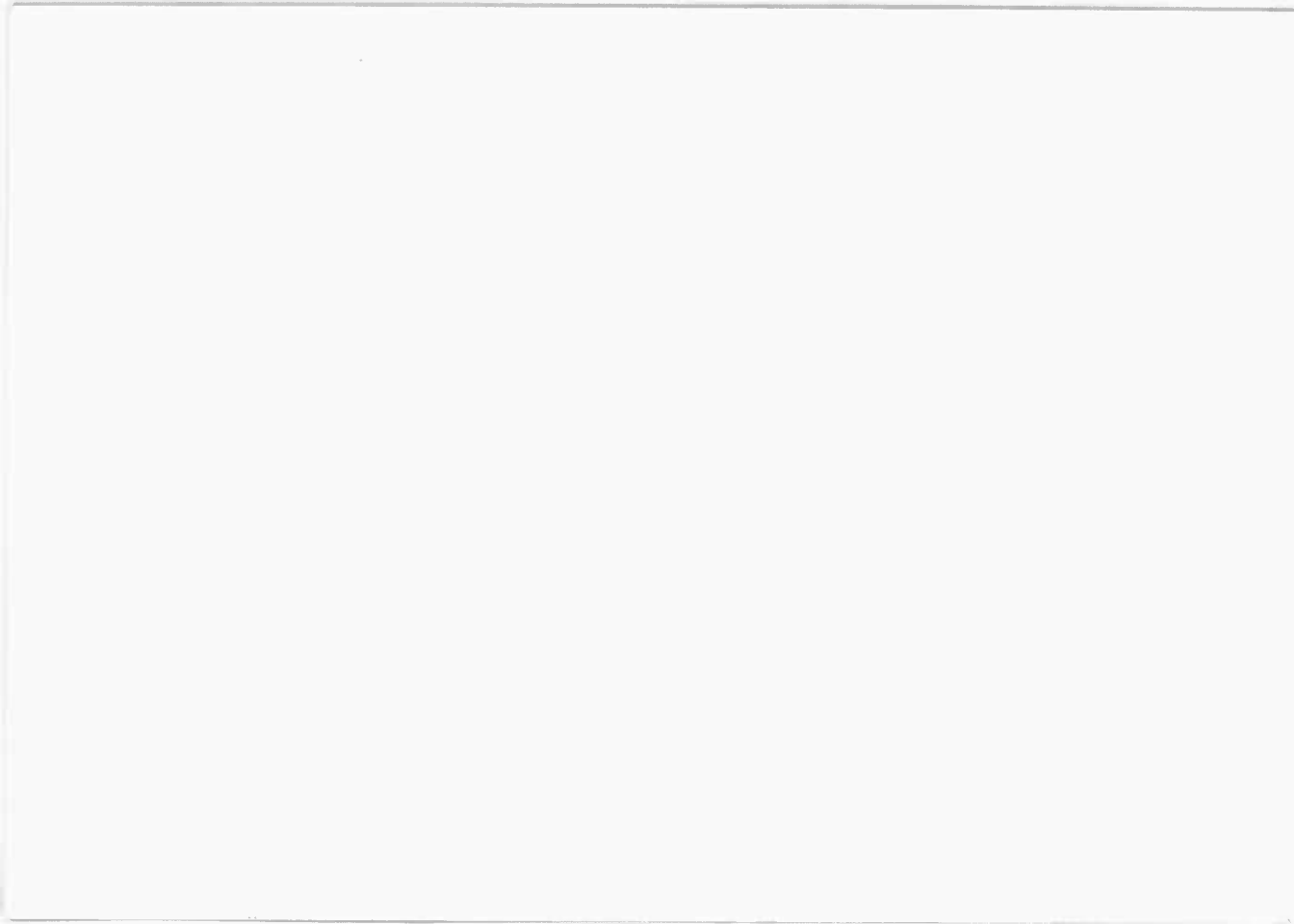
2 MIL YO AND. 785

7 MI. TO MD. 2 & 4













12

CT-604
Port Republic School
Broomes Island Road
Port Republic
Calvert County, MD
WIS

merry Stinson
march, 1980